

Acting Chief, FBID

17 July 1961

Chief, Field Operations Staff

Letter of Information Notes - June 1961

1. Puerto Rican Survey
(See OPERATIONS Para 1 of June Progress Report) and Eng Staff notes

2. Initial steps were taken to increase the staff, and the coverage capabilities, of the Panama Post. The post chief was authorized to recruit two local foreign national monitors (one Spanish, and one Spanish-Portuguese), plus one or two additional teletypists. When these personnel are on duty an additional editor will be assigned. This expansion is believed necessary regardless of whether it is decided to construct a new Latin American bureau in Puerto Rico or elsewhere in the Caribbean area. This would provide a substantial increase in Latin American coverage quickly and at very low cost.

3. Round-the-clock coverage of the Kuwait Radio was provided at the Mediterranean Bureau in connection with the Iraqi threat to take over the shaykhdom.

4. Training of the African Bureau's two initial monitors continued. The third monthly production report indicated a daily average of 550 words of publishable material filed, compared with 200 words in May. It is planned to send a senior monitor to Kaduna in early fall to assist with monitor training until the Bureau's second editor arrives.

SUBJECT: Letter of Information Notes - June 1961

2

5. During the past month more international broadcasts were added to FBIS coverage. Among these were the new Ghana international service beamed to West Africa and five hours of Spanish added to the Radio Havana transmissions to the Americas. A new anti-Trujillo regime clandestine radio station, "LA VOZ DE LA LIBERTAD," was heard for approximately two weeks but left the air on 11 July. One interesting development was the suspension by the Chinese Home Service of Moscow-originated broadcasts on the First Program starting 1 July. No explanation for the cessation of these broadcasts was given by Peking.

6. In an effort to help the BIS supply more up-to-date information on African radio stations, the USIA has asked its African posts to supply regularly station schedules from newspapers, periodicals, and from the stations directly. The BIS in this way will be able to develop more information necessary to an increase in the FBIS coverage of the newly independent African nations.



STAT

ITEMS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN MONTHLY LETTER OF INFORMATION
FROM BIS, 17 JULY 1961:

50X1

1. [] The FOS/BIS ~~was~~ prepared a special reception survey showing night reception possibilities at the Panama Post for the purpose of expanding coverage at that Post to include a night shift. A series of maps indicating the scope of coverage was included with the survey. The survey indicates that a large amount of untapped coverage can be assumed by the enlargement of the Panama Post.

50X1

2. ~~During~~ ^{During} the past month more international broadcasts were added to FBIS coverage. Among these were the new Ghana international Service beamed to West Africa and five hours of Spanish added to the Radio Havana transmissions to the Americas. A new anti-Trujillo regime clandestine radio station, "Radio de la Libertad," ~~was~~ ^{was} heard for approximately two weeks but left the air on 11 July. One interesting development was the suspension by the Chinese Home Service of Moscow-originated broadcasts on the First Program starting 1 July. No explanation for the cessation of these ~~radio~~ broadcasts was given by Peking. []

50X1

50X1

3. [] A special report on the Organization of Radio Broadcasting in the Dominican Republic was prepared at the request of the AD/O shortly after the burning of the Radio Caribe studios in Ciudad Trujillo.

50X1

4. [] In an effort to help the BIS supply more up-to-date information on African radio stations, the USIA has asked its African posts to supply regularly station schedules from newspapers, periodicals, and from the stations directly. The BIS in this way will be able to develop more information necessary to an increase in the FBIS coverage of the newly independent African nations.

endall

CONFIDENTIAL